

Preliminary Amendment
Attorney Docket Q67618

5. (Amended) A method of getting an aircraft of the airplane or glider type as specified in claim 1 onto station, the method being characterized by the following steps:

- on the ground, said aircraft (1) is secured to an independent transporter (3);
- said transporter (3) takes said aircraft (1) to a high altitude at which it is to operate making use solely of propulsion means of said transporter (3);
- said transporter (3) releases said aircraft (1) at the altitude (H) and at least approximately at the intended location of its operating station; and
- if necessary, said aircraft (1) uses its own propulsion means (2) to put itself finally on station and take up its proper orientation.

7. (Amended) A method of replacing a radio relay in a telecommunications network comprising a plurality of radio relays, the method being characterized in that said radio relay (10) is replaced by an aircraft (1) of the airplane or glider type as specified in claim 1, and provided with transceiver means (15) for radio waves (16, 17), said aircraft (1) being taken to an altitude and a position such that said transceiver means (15) lies in the same direction relative to at least one user (11, 12) of said telecommunications network (RT) as said replaced relay (10), with operation between said transceiver means (15) and said user (11, 12) being performed via an existing interface.

8. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising a plurality of radio relays, characterized in that it includes at least one radio relay carried by an aircraft (1) of the airplane or glider type as specified in claim 1, and put onto station at high altitude.